

Message Text

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20

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 IGA-01 L-02 OES-05 INT-05 AGR-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 EUR-12 AF-10 IO-10 ISO-00 /096 W

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P R 261114Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2499

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS MOGADISCIO 1897

DEPT ALSO PASS AID/PHA/FDRC

ROME FOR FODAG (SKILES)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID SOCI SO

SUBJECT: SOMALI DROUGHT RELIEF

REFERENCE: MOGADISCIO 1895

1. AMBASSADOR, DCM AND EMBASSY LIAISON OFFICER, IN COMPANY DIRECTOR GENERAL MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (WHO IS ALSO COMMISSIONER OF NATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATION), VISITED PORT, BOARDED SS ALEX STEPHENS AND OBSERVED UNLOADING OF BISCUITS AND THEIR TRANSFER TO PORT WAREHOUSE AND, IN SOME CASES, DIRECT TO POLICE TRUCKS FOR SHIPMENT TO AFFECTED AREAS.

2. MASTER OF ALTM STEPHENS ESTIMATES THAT AT PRESENT UNLOADING RATE IT WILL TAKE AT LEAST WEEK TO UNLOAD SHIP. PRINCIPAL PROBLEM IS THAT CIVIL DEFENSE BISCUITS ARE RELATIVELY BULKY AND LIGHTERS CANNOT RPT NOT CARRY MANY TONS AT A TIME. IN ADDITION, THERE IS ANOTHER SHIP WITH EMERGENCY SUPPLIES (EEC FLOUR) IN PORT COMPETING FOR LIGHTERS.

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3. WE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SPEED. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERIOR SAID HE WOULD SEE ABOUT GETTING MORE STEVEDORES AND LIGHTERS, HAVING OPERATIONS CONTINUE AROUND THE CLOCK (UNLOADING SUSPENDED FOR EIGHT HOURS LAST NIGHT--2330 TO 0730) AND ASSURING THAT LIGHTERS FULLY LOADED.

4. AMBASSADOR RAISED QUESTION OF LIGHTERING FEES WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL. DIRECTOR GENERAL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT GSDR WAIVER OF PORT CHARGES INCLUDED LIGHTERING FEES. HE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH PORT AUTHORITIES ON THIS MATTER. WE WILL PURSUE THIS IN EFFORT TO GET GSDR TO PAY THESE CHARGES.

5. PARTY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SOMALI NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENT AND WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED PUBLICITY FOR THIS AND FOR OUR GIFT TO RED CRESCENT BY DIRECTOR GENERAL.
KIRK

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Message Attributes

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